

Finding European Directives, Regulations and Decisions

There are two forms of European Union (EU) legislation: primary legislation embodied in the Treaties and secondary legislation in the form of Regulations, Directives and Decisions which are used to implement the policies set out in the Treaties

The *Treaty of Rome* (Art.189) defines the various categories of secondary legislation:

“ A Regulation shall have general application. It shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States. A Directive shall be binding, as to the result to be achieved, upon each Member State to which it is addressed, but shall leave to the national authorities the choice of form and methods. A Decision shall be binding in its entirety upon those to whom it is addressed.”

Citing Secondary Legislation

Regulations, Directives and Decisions are individually numbered in an annual sequence.

Regulations are issued with the Community prefix and document number preceding the year:

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1442/2001 of 16 July 2001 on the authorisation of transfers between the quantitative limits of textiles and clothing products originating in the Republic of India

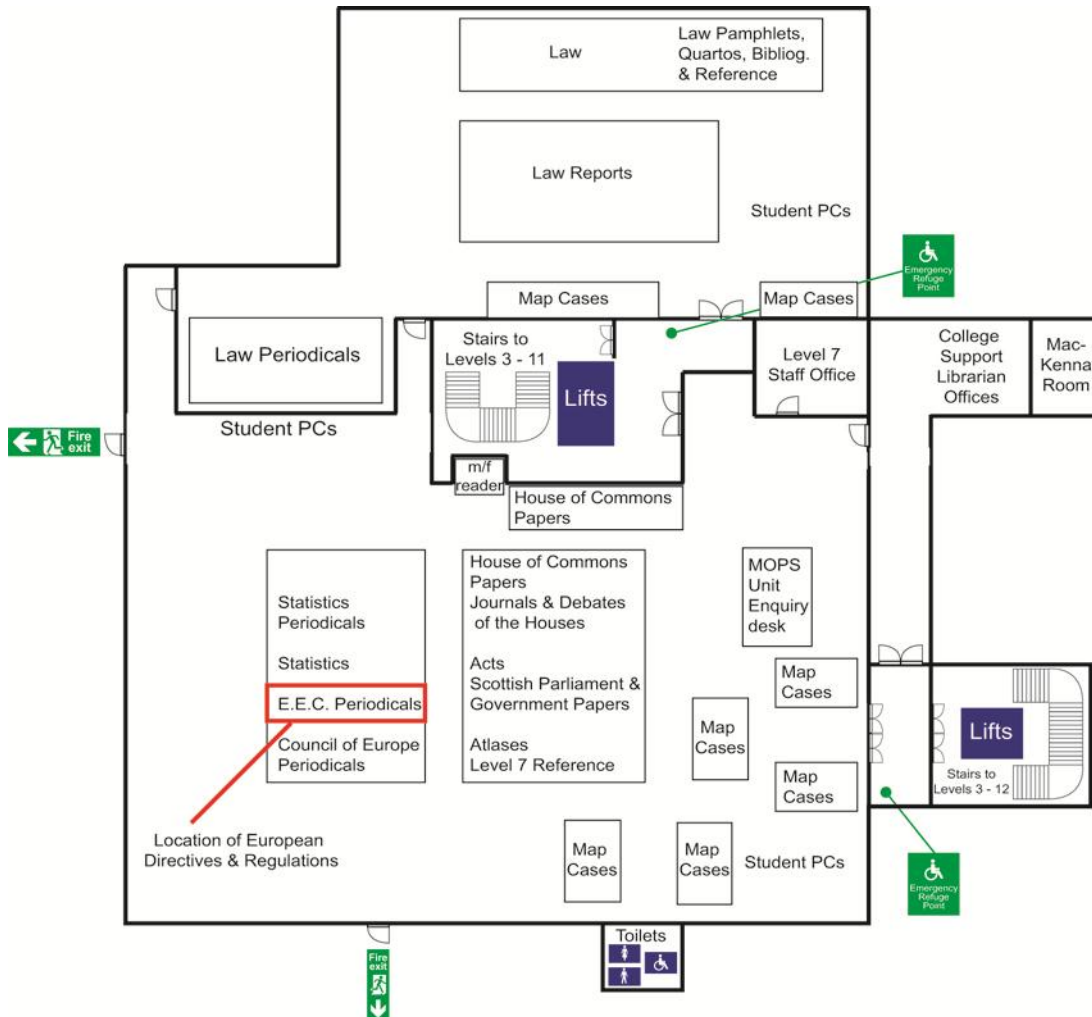
Directives and Decisions are issued with the year preceding the document number and Community prefix:

Directive 2001/41/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 June 2001 amending, for the twenty-first time, Council Directive 76/769/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing ...

2001/41/EC: Council Decision of 22 December 2000 on the rules applicable to national experts on detachment to the General Secretariat of the Council in the context of an exchange system for officials of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and officials of national administrations or of international organisations

Finding a Directive or Regulation in Glasgow University Library

The main collection of European Regulations and Directives are on Level 7 in EEC Periodicals

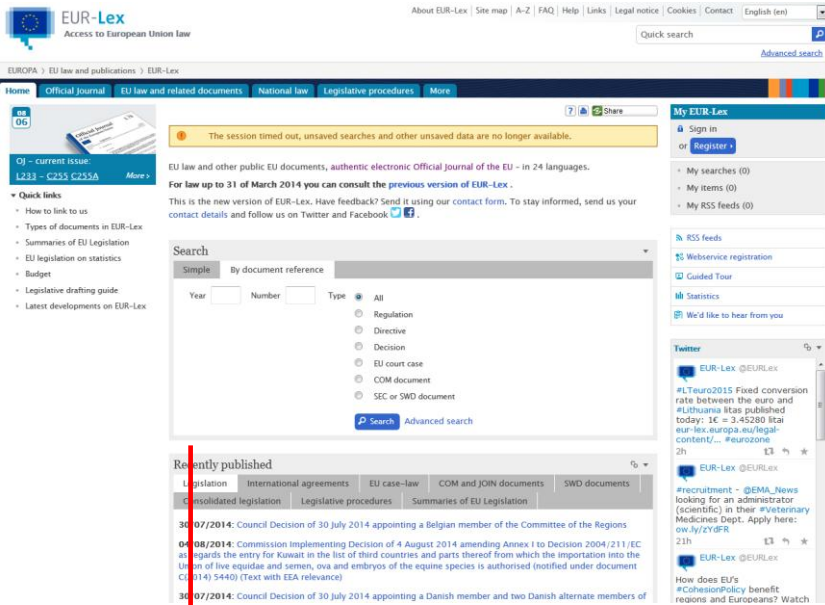


Directives, Decisions and Regulations are published in the Legislation Series of the **Official Journal of the European Union**, which is commonly referred to as the OJ L. The OJL is shelved in the EEC Pers section on Level 7 at (**EEC Pers OF 240**) We hold this in paper until the end of June 2013. From the 1st of July 2013 the online version of the Official Journal on [Eur-Lex](#) became legally authoritative for all years.

The full text of all Regulations, Decisions and Directives in force can be found on the [EUR-Lex](#) website. For help and advice on locating this material online, please see the following directions, or speak to staff on Level 7 of the library.

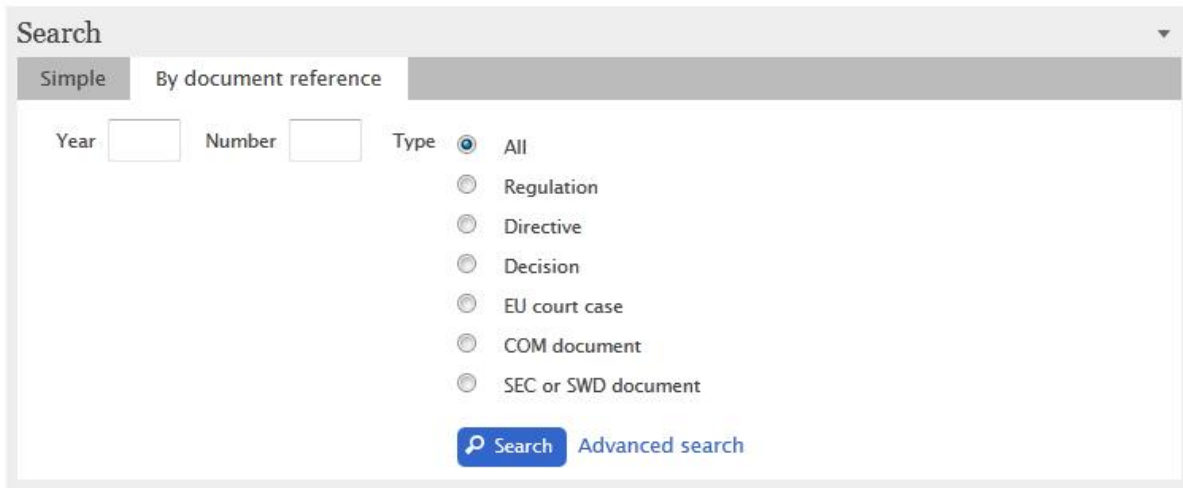
Finding a Directive or Regulation on EUR-Lex

Step 1: Access to EUR-Lex



EUR-Lex is a database of the complete collections of EU legal texts in all the official languages <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>

Step 2: Searching if you know the directive, regulation or decision number



From the home page, select the year, number and type of document and press **Search**.

Step 3: Searching if you don't know the directive or regulation number

There is a simple search, accessed by clicking the **Simple** tab of the search box on the home page.

The screenshot shows a search box with the 'Simple' tab selected. Below the tabs are three input fields: 'Text search' (with a help icon), 'CELEX number', and 'ECLI'. At the bottom of the search box, there is a 'Search' button and a link to 'Advanced search'. A red arrow points from the 'Simple' tab to the 'Advanced search' link.

Alternatively, an advanced search can be accessed by clicking on the **Advanced Search** option.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex Advanced Search page. The page has a header with the EUR-Lex logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled 'Advanced search' and contains several sections for filtering search results:

- Domain selection:** A dropdown menu set to 'All documents'.
- Search language:** A dropdown menu set to 'English'.
- Words in text/title:** Input fields for 'Text search', 'Title and text', and 'Phonetic search'.
- Identifiers:** Fields for 'Document reference' (Year, Number, Type) and 'CELEX number', 'ECLI'. It also includes 'Procedure reference' (Year, Number, Type, OJ number, OJ series, Year, First page in OJ, Last page in OJ) and 'Special edition'.
- Date:** Fields for 'Date' (All dates, From, To) and 'European Court Reports' (Year, Page number, Volume).
- More search options:** Fields for 'Type of act', 'Author', and 'EuroVoc'. It also includes checkboxes for 'Limit to the latest consolidated version' and 'Exclude corrigenda'.

On the right side, there is a 'My EUR-Lex' sidebar with options for 'Sign in', 'Register', 'My searches', 'My items', 'My RSS feeds', 'RSS feeds', 'Webservice registration', 'Guided Tour', 'Statistics', and 'We'd like to hear from you'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Search' button and a 'Clear' link.

Step 3: Search Results Display Screen

The screenshot displays the EUR-Lex search results interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the EUR-Lex logo and 'Access to European Union law'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, the page is divided into several sections:

- Refine query:** A sidebar on the left with filters for domain, subdomain, year of document, author, and type of act.
- Search criteria:** A central box showing search parameters: Domain: All documents, Type of document: Decision, Document type: D, M, J, S, Number: 0211, Year: 2004, Exclude corrigenda: True, Search language: English. It includes options to edit search, save to My searches, and create in My RSS feeds.
- Sort by:** A dropdown menu set to 'Relevancy' and 'Descending'.
- Results:** A list of search results. The second result is highlighted with a red arrow pointing to the 'Direct text access' link, which includes icons for HTML and PDF.
- My EUR-Lex:** A sidebar on the right with options for sign in, register, and view My searches, My items, and My RSS feeds.

To access full text of directive, regulation or decision – click on the html or pdf option to view

Kirsteen Valenti
Official Publications and Statistics Librarian
Room 713 Level 7,
University of Glasgow Library
Tel: (0141) 330 6735.
Email: Kirsteen.Valenti@glasgow.ac.uk

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